



# New Castle Crier

*The official newsletter of New Castle City*

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## Citizen input sought on riverfront redevelopment proposal

The City of New Castle is hosting a meeting seeking citizen input concerning a proposal to redevelop and revitalize the City riverfront. The project idea originated with the Historic New Castle Alliance (HNCA) group. The City Planning Commission has been involved and the City Council approved funding in the 2011/12 City budget for a preliminary study to be performed by a professional consultant. Duffield Associates was selected to do the work.

Public input and participation are crucial elements to the overall project. The City is hosting a design charrette for citizens to voice their views and share their visions relative to the riverfront. The meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 17 at 7 p.m. in the auditorium at the New Castle School, 903 Delaware Street (formerly the New Castle Middle School).

It is important to note that while the study scope is preparation of a waterfront master plan, boat access is being considered, mainly at the end of Delaware Street in the vicinity of the wharf and heading a short distance going southwest on the shore of Battery Park. It does

**Attend the Design Charrette! Mon., Oct. 17  
at 7 p.m. at the New Castle School, 903 Delaware St.**

include looking at existing structures such as the wharf, the Banks Building on the wharf, what is commonly known as the "catwalk" — the pier which has a locked gate near the end blocking access to a large concrete structure — and several ice pier structures.

Some of the tentative ideas which could be part of the redevelopment plan include:

- a limited amount of daytime docking to enable boaters to patronize City shops and restaurants and engage in tourist activities;
- appropriate infrastructure installed to allow vessels like the Kalmar Nyckel to dock, and which could also allow docking for small ferries;
- development of a permanent place for the Good Will Fire Co. to access their rescue boat.

For persons wishing to provide written suggestions, send them to the City Administrator at 220 Delaware Street; or [CathrynThomas@NewCastleCity.org](mailto:CathrynThomas@NewCastleCity.org).

### *An open letter from Councilperson Teel Petty*

It's hard to believe kids have been back in school for more than a month and the City's Summer Camp ended several weeks ago. Even so, the New Castle Summer Camp ended with a splash!

Our Coordinator, counselors, participants and parents helped make this year's camp a success. Campers enjoyed pony rides, swimming, City tours, a visit to the Police Station for Identification Cards, bowling, a Blue Rocks Game, Citizen's Bank Park Philadelphia Phillies stadium tour, Mad

Science experiments, a day at the University of Delaware outdoor pool and a visit to the ice rink to watch skaters ice dance, and then lunch at Grotto's Pizza.

This Camp was made possible by parents who entrust their children to our care. Special thanks are due to our Camp Coordinator Dana Sedlik and counselors James Klin-ski, Timothy S. Lynch, John (Jeong) Shin, Brittany Brooks and Clarence Banks. Other support for the Camp is provided by a diverse team: New Castle City taxpayers, Finance/HR Manager Marian C. Delaney, Public Works Supervisor

George O'Neal and Foreman Erv Thatcher, the Trustees of the New Castle Commons and the New Castle Presbyterian Church. We had great programs, including a workshop on dealing with violence and bullying provided by the Delaware Attorney General's office and a super demonstration put on by the Good Will Fire Co. Finally, we thank the Delaware Food Bank for providing breakfast and lunch.

We welcome campers to return next year, and encourage all City children, ages 5 to 14, as new participants. Watch for information in the spring in this newsletter.

## *New Castle – The First Capital City!*

**The most picturesque and historic waterfront community on the East Coast!**

# Code Enforcement Corner

Code Enforcement helps maintain and improve the quality of life of the City of New Castle by administering an unbiased enforcement program to correct violations of City zoning, property maintenance and building codes. This includes working with residents, neighborhoods, public service agencies and other City offices.

Complaint forms are available at the City offices or on the City Web site at: [www.NewCastleCity.org](http://www.NewCastleCity.org). To reach the Code Enforcement Officer, call 323-6081.

Complaints are handled on a confidential basis. If feedback and/or updates are requested, however, a name, address and phone number need to be provided with the complaint.

## ***This month's highlights and general reminders...***

1. All properties in the City shall have approved address numbers placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numerals or alphabet letters. Numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches high with a minimum stroke width of 0.5 inches.

2. Note that Chapter 210 of the City Code prohibits work on street trees by anyone other than the Tree Commission.

3. Most home improvement projects require a New Castle City building permit. Please ensure that your contractor or you have obtained the necessary permits prior to the job proceeding. Historic Area Reviews are required in the Historic District. Call 322-9813 for information.

4. All businesses/contractors working in the City must obtain a New Castle City business license prior to working in the City. Please make sure your contractor is properly licensed and insured before commencing any work on your property. Call 322-9813 for information.

5. Rental licenses are required for all rental properties in the City. They can be obtained at the City Building Department located at 900 Wilmington Road. Call 322-9813 for information.

The next  
regular  
**City Council**  
meeting is 7 p.m.,  
Tues., Oct. 9 at  
Town Hall

## ***Many thanks for cleanup volunteers!***

***Thank you!*** to all our volunteers who have collected litter on our beach and in City Parks to improve everyone's quality of life. Recently, Ann Marie Bercy was the Team Captain for Coastal Cleanup crews, and Corie Roy and Gina Gray led crews from the Bank of America on a few occasions in the summer.

Of course, every year the New Castle Sailing Club holds their cleanup and the Bull Hill Boat Club cleans up the area they use on City property adjacent to Bull Hill Park. Finally, we thank the countless anonymous volunteers who periodically pick up litter, whose public service is most appreciated!

## October Events

**Fridays, October 7 and November 11**  
**Good Will Fire Co. Ladies Auxiliary**

♣ **Longaberger/Vera Bradley Bingo** ♣  
Doors Open 6 p.m.; Games Begin 7 p.m. ❖ 401 South St.  
\$20 For 20 Games ❖ Also Selling Extra Game Cards,  
50/50's, Chance Items and Refreshments  
For more information contact Colleen at 995-1137



**Saturday, October 15 ❖ New Castle Senior Center**  
♣ **Harvest Bazaar** ♣

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Senior Center at 400 South St.  
Featuring homemade baked goods, handmade crafts, new sewing supplies, books, new and gently used items, breakfast/lunch, raffles and 50/50's, tarot card readings and more! Free admission!  
Contact 326-4209 or [info@newcastleseniorcenter.com](mailto:info@newcastleseniorcenter.com)

**Sunday, October 16 ❖ New Castle Area Churches**  
♣ **CROP Walk for Hunger** ♣

Registration at Noon; Walk Starts at 1 p.m.  
Location: New Castle UMC, 510 Delaware Street  
For information call Joan Skilton at 658-9991 or email  
[skiltonfamily@comcast.net](mailto:skiltonfamily@comcast.net) ❖ [www.churchworldservice.org/CROP](http://www.churchworldservice.org/CROP)

**Saturday, October 29 ❖ Good Will Fire Co.**  
♣ **Open House** ♣

Noon to 3 p.m. at the Fire Hall at 401 South St.  
See the Mill Creek Safety House, the Delaware City Robot Fire Truck and much more!  
New Castle City Police will be Fingerprinting Children  
Free Refreshments!

**Sat., Oct. 29 ❖ New Castle United Methodist Church**  
♣ **Lasagna Dinner** ♣

4 to 7 p.m. at the Church at 510 Delaware St.  
Everyone is invited for fun and a feast!  
Tickets sold at the Church Office and at the Door  
Cost is \$10 for Adults and Kids Under 4 are Free!  
Call 328-2207 for information.